

Touchstone

Surrey
Earth
Mysteries



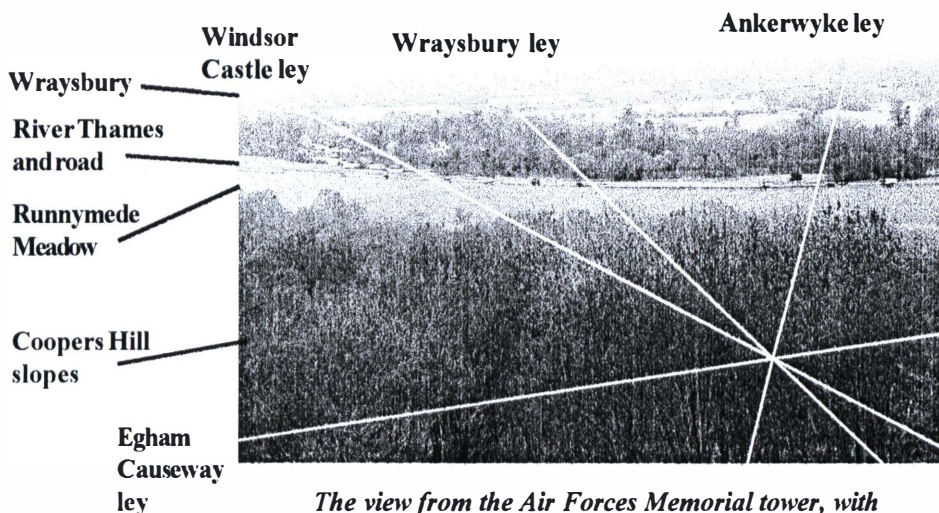
No. 65

April 2004

THE COOPERS HILL CENTRE

About a week after finding the leys going through the Great Fosters moat described in the last issue, I noticed that one of them, the one coming from Windsor Castle, met three of my other lines at a seemingly unmarked spot on Coopers Hill, Egham, just behind the Air Forces Memorial. I did not notice this convergence at any time when drawing the lines, not even the last one - it only became apparent when looking at the map some time later. It is a good vindication of the reality of leys - yet on the map it is completely unmarked. I went there to see if there was any evidence for anything on the spot.

The Windsor Castle ley is one of the two "royal" leys meeting at the Great Fosters moat - the other going to Buckingham Palace and the Victoria Monument (which seems to be the actual ley centre there). This ley comes through the Castle and along the first straight stretch



The view from the Air Forces Memorial tower, with leys and centre marked



The semicircle of oaks at the centre

Another ley of note passing through the centre is the Egham Causeway ley, one of the ones that passes through the Negen Stones site near Staines Bridge, described some issues ago. From the Coopers Hill centre this runs to the base of Runnymede Bridge where there was a Bronze Age/Neolithic site, along the Egham Causeway (ostensibly medieval, but evidence that it was Roman before that), through the Negen Stones site, through the Spelthorne moot site (located from the Surrey Sites and Monuments Record), along a long coincident road stretch to the major ley centre at Sunbury Cross and three churches.

The third comes from a boundary cross-roads at Sunningdale, across the Virginia Water lake to pass through the Air Forces Memorial and then the Coopers Hill centre, across Runnymede Meadow (Magna Carta site) and the river to Ankerwyke Priory (a contender for Magna Carta), then a church in South Ruislip and one in North Harrow, a coincident road and cross-roads/track in Stanmore, a main cross-roads at Borehamwood, and a cross-roads near Junction 1 of the M25.



The track along the Egham Causeway ley

A fourth comes north from a tumulus on Chobham Common near Longcross, across Callow Hill to a St. Cuthbert's Catholic church at Englefield Green, then to the Coopers Hill centre and across the river and along a coincident track to St. Andrew's Church, Wraysbury. This is a twelfth century church substantially rebuilt in Victorian times but amazingly still within a circular bank, which an early twentieth century extension cuts through. It then goes through

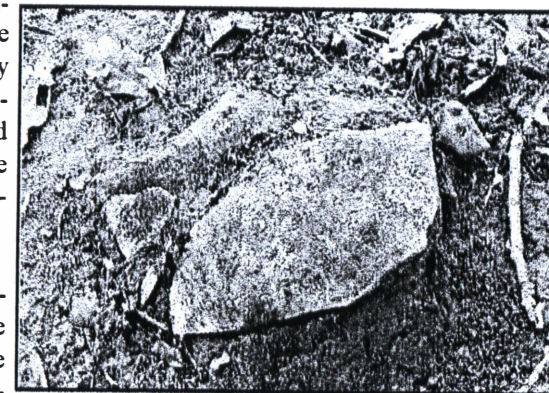
of Frogmore Drive and through Frogmore (though missing the Royal Mausoleum where Queen Victoria is buried). It then goes through the large junction south of the Home Park, and then through the John F. Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede, which we found powerful on our Runnymede field trip. From here it goes through the newly-found centre on Coopers Hill, then through the Great Fosters moat to St. Anne's Hill, a hillfort at Chertsey.



The track along the Wraysbury Church ley

the Egham Causeway ley runs across the field of view. There is a path going down the hill from a point just before the Memorial is reached, leading down into the wood.

Coming to the point the map indicates, I found a cross-tracks not marked on the map; around it there is a semicircle of oaks. To the west a small rivulet tumbles down the hillside; to the east is another cutting that looks as if it was made by water. One of the tracks runs in a generally westerly direction, straight for some way. This is coincident with the Egham Causeway ley. The other, at approximately a right angle with it, seems to be coincident with the Wraysbury Church ley. Dowsing seemed to indicate that this cross-tracks is indeed the site of the centre and the tracks are coincident with the leys; some head-hum was felt at the centre.



The sarsen stones in the bank

Visible on the bank of the now waterless cutting were what seemed to be some small pieces of sarsen stone protruding from the hillside. The largest of the group was about the size of my hand; too small to be a markstone, and although embedded it did move slightly when pushed. But it could be the remains of a stone or even more than one; sarsen is not natural to this area, which has a heavy clay soil.

It was an excellent vindication of the reality of leys; firstly the site was found from the natural convergence of several leys found on different occasions, each being part of other research;

only later was the centre noticed on the map. Then there were the coincident tracks not marked on the map, the possible significance of the stone and the evocative semicircle of trees. It is an amazing place and surely must have been one of significance in earlier times.

MERTONPRIORYANDSTANESTREET

A few years ago Lionel Beer found a ley passing through several important sites in the Kingston area and organised two field trips following it. The line passes through the ancient church at Littleton, the Diana Fountain at Bushy Park, Kingston Parish Church, the Chantry Chapel at Kingston, Norbiton Church and Merton Priory.

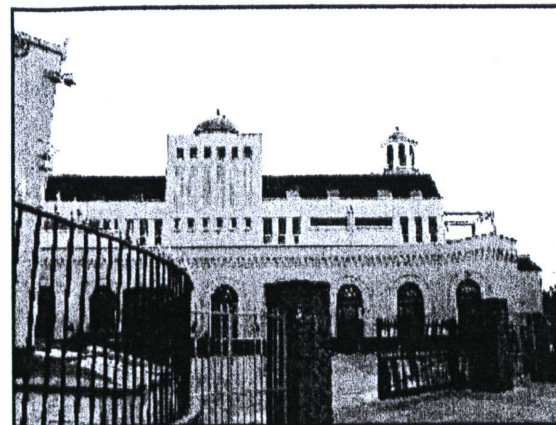
Merton Priory was an Augustinian house dedicated to Mary, founded in 1117 on the site where the Roman road Stane Street (London to Chichester) crosses the River Wandle. The church was longer than Westminster Abbey, but much was dismantled in the time of Henry VIII to build nearby Nonsuch Palace, itself now disappeared. One doorway found its way to the present St. Mary's parish church. But nothing is evident today except the ruins of the chapter house, preserved and originally visible through glass in a tunnel under the roadway, but now boarded up due to vandalism.

However, the map shows the Roman road Stane Street very clearly passing through the site. At first glance it looks like a straight road, but on plotting the alignments it is clear that there are three sections slightly differently aligned (as often seems to be the case with Roman roads), but all aligning clearly on one spot adjacent to the Chapter House, which the Kingston ley also passes through.

Each section seems to be aligned on its own ley (as with the sections of the Silchester-London ley passing through the Egham area), even though the angles between them are so slight. One is Kennington Park Road and Clapham Road, coming from Elephant and Castle. The second is Tooting High Street and Colliers Wood, going down towards Merton. The third is Epsom Road, Morden, Stonecot Hill and London Road adjoining Nonsuch Park. The alignments are mainly of churches; the Kennington Park Road one has six, the Tooting High Street one has four and the Morden-Nonsuch one has six and a mosque; in addition each has a number of cross-roads, some on the Roman road stretches and some not.

St. Mary's Church at Merton, on the Kingston ley, has associations with Lord Nelson and there is a memorial to him in the churchyard, a large granite stone with glinting quartz pieces and a small cannon. The stone and the south side of the church are both on the ley, which dowsed as 16 paces wide.

Many of the churches are modern, of a wide variety of shades of opinion and belief, and it is interesting that even so there are a number near one stretch that are on the alignment of another. A spectacular example of such a recent building is the Baitul Futuh mosque, opened in 2003 and with a tall minaret that was once a chimney of Express Dairies! This is on the



Baitul Futuh Mosque, Morden

alignment with the modern road curving round it. This is a Saxon foundation, rebuilt in 1636. Considerable head-hum was felt here.

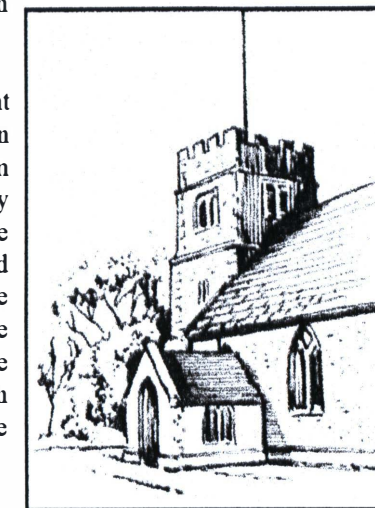
St. Anselm's Catholic Church at Tooting Bec is a spectacular building with a dome on Tooting Bec crossroads on the Tooting stretch of Stane Street, with a large statue of Anselm, who was Archbishop of Canterbury. The church opened in 1933.

St. Mary's, Balham (Anglican) is another flamboyant church on the Tooting stretch. Around 1805 a dozen wealthy residents of Balham, including William Wilberforce, Henry Thornton and Zachary Macauley came together to build a proprietary chapel at the 5 mile stone between Balham and Tooting. The chapel opened for worship on the 24th April 1808. The walls of the present nave are those of the original chapel. The building was extended in 1824 by the addition of the two transepts. On the 24th May 1855 the parish church was consecrated and dedicated to St Mary by the Bishop of Winchester.

There are two Scots pine clumps on the Nonsuch stretch alignment - one by Morden College and the other by the gate of Nonsuch Park on the side bordered by Stane Street (London Road, A24). There also seems to be a deciduous clump, including hawthorn, by Palmer Avenue on the road.

alignment of the Morden-Nonsuch stretch, although the modern road actually bends round it at this point, going under a railway bridge. Subconscious siting is alive and well, Mr. Devereux! It is the largest mosque complex in western Europe, and can hold up to 10,000 worshippers - built by the Ahmadi Muslims, who built the first London mosque in 1924.

Not far from the mosque is St. Lawrence's Church, Morden, also on the Morden-Nonsuch stretch



St. Lawrence's Church, Morden

There are a number of indications of stones on the Morden-Nonsuch stretch, although these could derive from the name of Stane Street itself (a Saxon name, as strangely we do not have any Latin names for any of the Roman roads in Britain. We do not know what the Romans themselves called any of them). This could just refer to the paving of the road. Part of the stretch itself is called Stonecot Road, and there is, on hilltop on the stretch, a road off called Staines Avenue. Also, near Ewell, there is the adjacent village of Stoneleigh.

The alignment of the Tooting stretch goes through the site of Nonsuch Palace. King Henry VIII built Nonsuch and Oatlands Palaces, as hunting lodges in his newly created hunting estate based on Hampton Court. He decorated the walls of Nonsuch to celebrate the birth in October 1537 of Prince Edward the long-awaited male heir to the English throne. The decorations on the walls of the inner court were designed to show the young prince the duties he should fulfil and the pitfalls he should avoid. They covered some 900 feet on the inward and outward walls of the inner court, and were carried out in stucco and carved slate.



Clump at entrance to Nonsuch Park. Houses in the background are on Stane Street

In addition to the Roman road stretch leys, there seem to be two others going through the Merton Priory centre. One comes through three churches in Croydon, a main cross-roads on Mitcham Common, the centre, three churches in Wimbledon, coincident track leading to Roehampton Gate at Richmond Park (where it crosses the Buckingham Palace Ley), two cross-roads in Ickenham and coincident road at Denham Green.

The other runs along another prominent stretch of straight road pointing at the Merton Priory centre - St. Helier Road, Morden. It comes northward from a cross-roads in Banstead, two churches in Sutton, St. Helier Road and the Merton centre, a church in Wandsworth, a cross-roads near Albert Bridge, a church in Marylebone, a church in Highgate on a multi-junction with a three-arm boundary, and a church in Southgate.

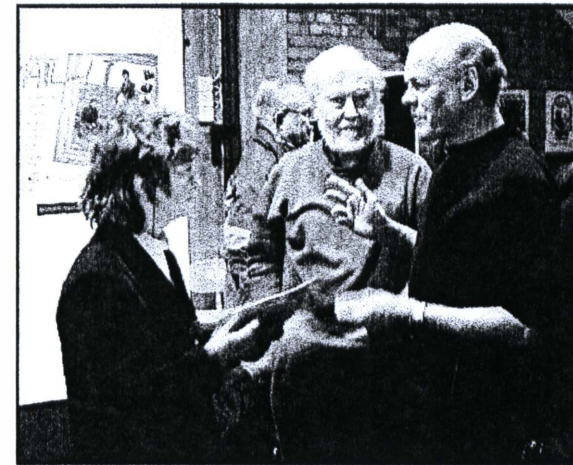
Old Paths and New Ways - A Fresh Look at Leylines

A talk by Rose Heaword to the London Earth Mysteries Circle

On March 9th Rose Heaword spoke on leys to the London Earth Mysteries Circle at the Diorama Centre in Euston Square. She went into the history of the subject, illustrated by a timeline, and gave a fascinating view not only of the personalities and ideas that had

appeared at the various times from 1890 to the present day, but also the relationships between them, sometimes very aggressive, and how they influenced each other. The four timelines were folklore, archaeology, astronomy and dowsing, and the ideas and people concerned with them were to interact in many complex ways. She called this approach "cognitive archaeology".

Up to the first world war, most of the interactions were between archaeology and astronomy, primarily the work of F.C. Penrose and Sir Norman Lockyer who brought out a book in 1901. Both the wars stopped all developments in these areas for the time they were on; after the first world war a new breed of archaeologist appeared; they were keen to differentiate themselves from the "antiquarians" of previous years and this is what was



Rose Heaword

thought to have led to the friction between them and Alfred Watkins when he publicised his discovery of leys in the 1920s, shown by the refusal by *Antiquity* magazine to take a paid advertisement for *The Old Straight Track*. The astronomy and folklore strands also had connections here, as with the similar findings of Wilhelm Teudt in Germany.

Dowsing had taken a separate path until the 1930s with societies forming in France and Britain; several researchers in France were linking it with archaeology, as

was Reginald Smith, who however kept his interest in dowsing a secret until after his death as he was part of the archaeological establishment. Major Tyler brought landscape geometry into the picture about this time.

The second world war brought matters to a halt again, and shortly afterwards the Straight Track Club was wound up. In the fifties which followed UFOs were to enter the scene through the orthoteny alignments found by Aimé Michel in the 1954 UFO flap in France; C.G Jung was also mentioned with his *Modern myth of things seen in the sky*. Following from this was Tony Wedd and his connection of Michel's lines with leys. These the speaker attached to the folklore strand. At about the same time T.C. Lethbridge was doing his work and making another connection between dowsing and archaeology. The American Society of Dowsters was formed shortly afterwards.

In the sixties Philip Heselton and myself, leading on from Tony Wedd's ideas, started the

first series of *The Ley Hunter* magazine, and Professor G.S. Hawkins linked astronomy again by putting forward his ideas of Stonehenge as an astronomical computer, attacked by Professor Atkinson in *Antiquity* as "moonshine at Stonehenge". Shortly afterwards Professor Thom published his work on stone circles and geometry, similarly attacked in *Antiquity* by Isabella Hawkes. John Michell, after hearing my talk on leys, became interested in the subject and produced *The View over Atlantis*. Paul Screeton started the second series of *The Ley Hunter* at this time.

The 1970s were described by the speaker as "ideas in ferment" and all kinds of ideas came to the fore, especially ideas of energies in leys, and many organisations sprang up over the country. The Bords produced *The Secret Country*. In the astronomy side, Professor Fred Hoyle defended Hawkins, and John Michell produced a book on astroarchaeology. Professor Atkinson changed sides and supported Professor Thom. We then came through the 1980s and 1990s to the present time, with ideas continuing to ferment; it was a time of a number of moots up and down the country, and the Dragon Project investigating energies at ancient sites, followed by Paul Devereux's other ideas such as those of earth lights.

She then showed the flaws in the reasoning of the much-used argument that peas dropped randomly on a table will form alignments. The dropping of the peas was completely random and one event, whereas the placing of ancient sites was purposeful and happened over a long time. There could be no comparison, she said. She also showed, using a knotted cord, how knowledge of geometry including the right-angled triangle (a basis for stone circle design according to Professor Thom) could have been known to the ancient people without any knowledge of Pythagoras. The evening gave many fresh insights into the development of ideas and knowledge in linearity in the landscape, and gave much food for thought.

LETTERS

from Norman Darwen, Bolton, Lancashire:

I recently visited "Ladyewell" at Fernyhalgh (pronounced "Ferry 'uff") just to the north-east of Preston, Lancashire; it was my first visit for a few years. What used to be a small but locally well-known shrine accessed only from a farm track is now a thriving site of Marian pilgrimage, with Our Lady's Well only a small part of a centre which includes chapels, a museum of the Lancashire Catholic Martyrs, an outside area for mass and a way of the Stations of the Cross situated in a small ravine. This redevelopment has obviously entailed a lot of building work and I was interested to note that the little museum contains Roman and Saxon artefacts dug up in the gardens which could well be evidence of long site continuity. The legend of the well relates that a merchant (reputedly in the fourteenth century), after promising to undertake a pious deed if saved from peril on the sea, was miraculously led to the ruins of a chapel and found there a well and statue of Our Lady. He then restored the chapel. Such finds would obviously support the contention that the site had Christian significance long before the fourteenth century. The site itself is still quite remote, despite (or perhaps because of) the M6 motorway passing only a couple of hundred yards away.

NOTES AND NEWS

TEMS meetings

Sunday 25th April - The Secret of Sele - Landscape Geometry centred on the Priory of Sele in Sussex, by Bob Brown. *Meeting at Hampton - please ring Lionel, 020-8979-3148*

Sunday 23rd May - To be advised.

Saturday 26th June - FIELD TRIP - Chilterns Paradise Regained. Meet at Denham Country Park Visitor Centre 10.15 a.m. off M40 Junction 1. Denham High Lock, Crab Hill Fort earthwork, Old Jordan's Meeting House (1688), Mayflower Barn and John Milton's cottage. To Yasmin and family for tea in Chorleywood. *Detailed itinerary from Lionel, 020-8979-3148*

Sunday 27th June - to be advised. Meeting at Hampton - please ring Lionel, 020-8979-3148

Sunday 25th July - Summer Garden Party - booking essential. Meeting at Hampton - please ring Lionel, 020-8979-3148

Saturday 29th May - Northern Earth, Earth Spirit Moot, Skipton Town Hall, North Yorkshire. *Tickets and information, £14 to £10 from John Billingsley: 01422-882441*

London Earth Mysteries Circle meetings

7.00 p.m. Tuesdays (2nd and 4th in the month) at the New Diorama Centre, 34, Osnauburgh Street, London, NW1.

27th April - Will You Survive Death - an Awfully Big Adventure, by John Spencer

11th May - Hieronymus Bosch and the Cathar Otherworld, by Lynda Harris

25th May - Spell Craft, by Seldiy Bate and Nigel Bourne

8th June - Stonehenge: Celebration and Subversion, by Andy Worthington

22nd June - The Gruesome History of Body Snatching - by Rob Stephenson

13th July - Open Forum and Social

The E-Line at Broadlands

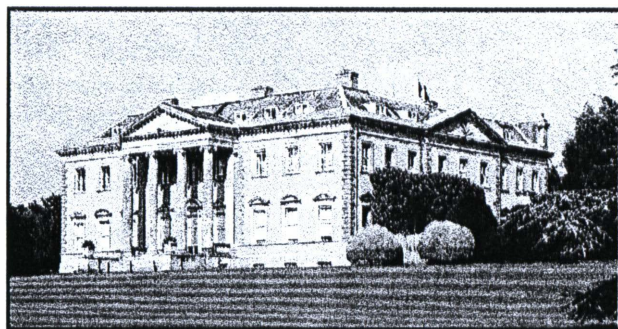
The E-line, the widest and most powerful ley yet found, which we investigated thoroughly in its Surrey stretch in the early 1990s, does not pass through Romsey Abbey in Hampshire (the parish church of the town) as was at first thought, although this building is very powerful and I experienced quite strong head-hum there when visiting it recently. The line actually passes a little to the south of the town, through the estate of Broadlands (the home of the late Lord Mountbatten), though not through the house but Broadlands Farm to the south of it.

The line comes through Lane End (Watkinsian significant name) near West Tisted, a coincident road in that village, a tumulus on Lane End Down (some miles from the former mentioned place), two cross-roads on a coincident track (on the first of which it meets the Buckingham Palace Ley) and a multijunction near Owslebury. It then goes through

Otterbourne Church south of Winchester, as well as a recumbent unmarked stone in the churchyard there. It continues to the staggered cross-roads on the Southampton Road from Romsey, bordering the Broadlands estate.

However, it also passes through a former junction on the estate itself. The medieval road from Romsey to Southampton ran through the Abbey "Brode Lands" close to the present house, but at the Dissolution a second road was made, from what is now Palmerston Street. These two roads meet at a point near Broadlands Farm; the E-line passes through the original junction. The present road, even farther to the east, became the Southampton road in the nineteenth century, but the Broadlands cross-roads on it, where the E-Line crosses, suggests it may have been older as a track.

Sometime in the 1950s there was a contact claim at Broadlands, investigated by Desmond Leslie and published in *Flying Saucer Review*. Ex-Army NCO Sgt. Briggs was employed to do odd jobs at Broadlands. He was on his way to work when he noticed a large disc-shaped object descending in front of him, into a small dell. It hovered 30 to 40 feet up, and a portion detached itself and floated down, with a man in "blue overalls" standing on it. Seeing Mr. Briggs, he retreated back into the craft. A green light then knocked the surprised worker to the ground, and he was unable to move until the UFO went away. Afterwards, he rose unharmed.



Broadlands

Lord Mountbatten's chauffeur noticed his white face and asked him what was the matter. He told him, and the chauffeur said that he must tell "the Boss" as he was interested in these things. Lord Mountbatten then had Briggs brought to him. A number of UFO photographs were produced and Briggs was reassured by Mountbatten, and asked to identify the type he had seen. Then they went out and saw a perfect circle that had been melted in the snow where the UFO had been. He was then asked to write a statement, of which seven copies were made and signed by Briggs and Mountbatten.

After this was told to Desmond Leslie, Briggs suddenly confided another incident which happened the following day. He met the blue-clad extraterrestrial again, standing in the road, and he asked Briggs to dismount, after which he was invited aboard the craft. He sat in a compartment with a triangular window, and was asked if he would like a trip. He said he would like to see the Pyramids, and after about ten minutes they could be seen outside the window.

This would have been at supersonic speed, so must have been using "scientific good manners" as Desmond Leslie put it in *Flying Saucers Have Landed*, to avoid a sonic boom. Just before Briggs left the craft, his host said "If only Lord Mountbatten were here, he could change the world". It was a strange statement since he was so near Mountbatten he could seemingly easily contact him if he wished.

Where the dell was is not certain, but the serpentine contour line is in the south of the estate, around the area of the E-Line, (there are no contours on the map in the northern part, suggesting this is completely flat), so this could well have occurred on it. Also, when plotted as a great circle on a globe, the line goes through the area of the Pyramids in Egypt, so if this event occurred as reported the craft would have been actually flying along the E-Line! Orthoteny in action!

MEYN MAMVRO

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The Stonehenge and Avebury Carvings

In the 1960s, Mollie Carey of Warminster, Wiltshire discovered and photographed a number of carvings on the stones of Stonehenge and Avebury seemingly depicting the ancient people there, but was treated by the archaeological establishment in much the same way that ley hunters have been. Nevertheless, her photographs do certainly seem to show depictions of people and animals, even including elephants! There is also a Sphinx-like face and a beautiful picture of what certainly seems to be a pair of lovers gazing soulfully at each other. She claims they can appear differently in different lights, and there is even a photograph in which one of the Avebury stones appears to be glowing. See the pictures, and her story, on:

<http://www.egyouth.fsnet.co.uk>

Surrey Earth Mysteries Group

Meetings second Thursday of each month except August and September at 25, Albert Road, Addlestone, Surrey.

Website: <http://www.goddardmultimedia.fsnet.co.uk/semg>

My other websites on earth mysteries subjects and findings can be found link-listed on:

<http://www.ahsoc.fsnet.co.uk/jimsites.htm>

THE HIDDEN UNITY and BEGINNINGS

The Hidden Unity looks at the strange phenomenon of subconscious siting of ley points, and notes that places of worship, of all religions and all ages, tend to predominate on leys. The environmental and philosophical implications of this are discussed, and the apparent necessity of worship but irrelevance of doctrine. Two ley centres are given as examples, and investigated in depth - the Shah Jehan Mosque in Woking and the Guru Nanak Sikh Temple, Scunthorpe. There is an appendix by Eileen Grimshaw on the significance of the Pagan religion to this study. Illustrated with photographs, maps and line drawings. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

Beginnings is about a series of potentially useful discoveries, mainly made by Jimmy Goddard over a period of about twenty years, but having some overlap with discoveries made by others. For various reasons, the investigations are all in their early stages, and some have not been continued. They include earth energy detection, natural antigravity, subconscious siting, ley width, and the solar transition effect. There is also a chapter on cognitive dissonance - a psychological factor which seems to have been at the root of all bigotry - scientific, religious and other - down the ages. The booklet is concluded with an account of the discovery of leys by Alfred Watkins. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

EARTH PEOPLE, SPACE PEOPLE

In 1961, Tony Wedd produced a manuscript *Earth Men, Space Men*, detailing many claims of extraterrestrial contact. It was never published, and I had thought it was lost, though it has recently been located. To try to make up for the loss in a much more modest size, this booklet was prepared. As well as giving details of some of the more prominent contact claims, there are articles on the history of the STAR Fellowship and some of its personalities, evidence for life in the Solar System and investigation into extraterrestrial language.

£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.

THE LEGACY OF TONY WEDD

This **CD-ROM** is an electronic form of the travelling exhibition Tony planned, using his voice, writing, photographs and drawings to illustrate his research and findings in the fields of flying saucers, landscape energies and lost technology.

£12 from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.

TOUCHSTONE is the newsletter of the Surrey Earth Mysteries Group. **£2 for four quarterly issues from J. Goddard, 25, Albert Road, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15. 2PX. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard. IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE AN "X" WILL FOLLOW THIS SENTENCE:**